Yukon Heritage Resources Board

Annual Report April 1, 2007–March 31, 2008

Vision

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board is a visible, active advisor to federal, territorial and First Nation governments on heritage. We protect and promote heritage by operating with integrity, committing to representativeness and sharing knowledge and skills. The Board are leaders and innovators in sustaining and nurturing all facets of Yukon heritage.

Mission

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board is a board created under the Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA) to represent all people of the Yukon and to advise the federal, territorial and First Nation governments on heritage matters. As stewards of our rich and diverse cultural heritage, we agree to:

- Provide conscientious, fair and respectful advice to ensure governments meet their obligations and responsibilities;
- Advance opportunities associated with the development and interpretation of heritage resources;
- Protect the value of heritage; and
- Foster relationships based on fairness, equity and representativeness.

These Vision and Mission statements were adopted by the Board in 2004.

Message from the Chair

The incoming members of the Yukon Heritage Resources Board gained a lot of ground in their first year. On behalf of the board, I would like to express our appreciation to Yukon Tourism and Culture, the Council of Yukon First Nations and Canada's Department of Canadian Heritage for placing their trust in us.

The first year of the new board's three-year term has been both demanding and productive. Board members worked energetically to assume the responsibilities of their mandate under the Yukon *Historic Resources Act* and Chapter 13 of Yukon First Nation Final Agreements. The board has defined an approach and determined priorities for participating within the heritage community.

YHRB chair Claire Festel
YHRB photo

All board members have taken part in heritage training sessions. We devoted a lot of attention to two activities initiated by the outgoing board: the Strategic Plan and Rules of Procedure to conduct hearings to resolve ownership of disputed heritage resources.

The board members' main focus during the year was to define ourselves within the heritage community by focusing on strengthening relationships, becoming actively involved, and maintaining long-standing commitments.

We were delighted to participate once again in the Fête Historica Fair and to attend the designation of the Mayo Legion Hall as a Yukon Historic Site. We welcomed the opportunity to engage with our fellow Umbrella Final Agreement board members during an orientation to Chapter 13. We value our day-to-day working relationship with units within the Cultural Services Branch, and our communications with First Nations heritage departments and heritage organizations. We are pleased to contribute to newsletters and other heritage communiqués and to host a dynamic heritage web site.

We look forward to the coming year. Heritage is becoming more of a focal point in the Yukon. It defines who we are and provides us with a foundation for the future. I speak for all members of the YHRB in expressing our commitment to continue to build on the positive contributions of this organization within the heritage community.

Who We Are

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board (YHRB) was established in 1995 in accordance with Chapter 13 of Yukon First Nation Final Agreements. YHRB's duties and responsibilities are outlined primarily in Chapter 13 of the Final Agreements and the Yukon *Historic Resources Act* (Part 1, Section 4). Under the Final Agreements, the board may make recommendations to the Minister and to Yukon First Nations regarding the management of Moveable Heritage Resources and Heritage Sites. YHRB may also be asked to make determinations pursuant to Chapter 13 section 13.3.2.1 (ownership of contested heritage resources) and 13.3.6 (management of ethnographic objects and palaeontological or archaeological objects).

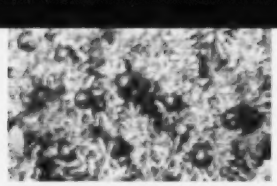
Board in front of the Taylor House, September, 2007: l-r Alexia McKinnon, Bill Pringle, Anne Leckie, Ron Chambers, Claire Festel (Chair), Testloa Smith, Sharon A. Peter (Vice-Chair) Absent: William Asp and Missy Follwell
YHRB photo

Under the *Historic Resources Act*, the board advises the Minister of Tourism and Culture on appropriate policies and guidelines for the designation of historic sites and appropriate policies; guidelines and standards for the care and custody of historic objects; making regulations under the *Act*; and the use of the Yukon Historic Resources Fund.

YHRB comprises ten members from throughout the Yukon who operate in the public interest. The Council of Yukon First Nations nominates five appointees and the Yukon government nominates five, with the concurrence of the government of Canada for one of the selections. All appointments are made by the Yukon Minister of Tourism and Culture for three-year terms.

New members Claire Festel (Chair), William Asp, Missy Follwell, Anne Leckie, Alexia McKinnon, Bill Pringle and Testloa Smith were appointed for a three-year term effective May 10, 2007. Members Sharon A. Peter (Vice-Chair) and Ron Chambers were reappointed.

Rick Lemaire, Director of Cultural Services, Department of Tourism and Culture, assisted the board in his role as the Yukon government representative until October, 2007 when Ian Burnett took over the position in an acting capacity. Loree Stewart continued in her role as Executive Director.



Board activities

The mandate of the YHRB is to provide advice to governments on issues that affect the territory's heritage resources. Board members work with a variety of groups and individuals both across the Yukon and nationally to fulfil this mandate. During the past year, board members focused on learning about the mandate and role of YHRB through various training initiatives and continued to develop the draft rules of procedure for dealing with contested ownership of heritage resources. The board revised the action plan to provide focus and timelines, increased the visibility of the YHRB through outreach and promotional materials, and initiated work on the revision of the application forms for the Yukon Historic Resources Fund.

Draft rules to adjudicate disputed ownership of heritage resources

- A presentation on the draft rules and the process required to complete them was provided to the new board at their second meeting in September.
- Board members worked with legal counsel through a series of meetings and finalized the draft rules by the end of the fiscal year.
- A draft PowerPoint presentation was developed to accompany the draft rules.
- Development of the draft rules provided board members with an opportunity to carry out an in-depth review of the objectives of Chapter 13 and the role of the YHRB.

Chapter 13 orientation for new YHRB board members and invited guests.
YHRB photo

Relationships with Parties to the UFA

- YHRB invited fellow UFA boards, heritage colleagues in the federal and territorial governments and heritage organizations to an orientation to Chapter 13 of Yukon First Nation Final Agreements and the role of the YHRB under this chapter.
- YHRB reviewed the planning documents for the Draft North Yukon Regional Land-Use Plan and attended the workshop for North Yukon Draft Plan Stakeholders in December in order to provide comments regarding recommendations related to heritage considerations addressed in the plan.

- YHRB invited heritage colleagues to the Taylor House to attend a presentation by Canadian Heritage staff on the history and general aims of the *Cultural Property Export and Import Act*.

Public awareness activities to heighten awareness of heritage and YHRB

- The board identified the need for promotional materials to give away at general assemblies, the Yukon Historica Regional Fair and various heritage events. Some promotional items were developed for these purposes.
- The board updated its website, adding a board-member page, a calendar of local, territorial and national heritage events and postings of interest to the general heritage community.
- YHRB continued to work in partnership with Yukon heritage organizations and the national Historica Foundation as one of the major sponsors of the Yukon Regional Historica Fair, which celebrated its tenth anniversary.

Cadzow House, Rampart House
Yukon government photo

YHRB's involvement with heritage activities to provide informed advice to governments

- The board sent a letter to the federal and territorial governments reconfirming its commitment to the aboriginal component of the Historic Places Initiative and to restate the need for progress on this initiative.
- At their November meeting, the board received a presentation from Sarah Charlie, First Nations Heritage Officer with the Cultural Services Branch, on its "Searching for Our Heritage" database.
- The board stays abreast of national heritage news through its membership with the Heritage Canada Foundation and the Canadian Museums Association.
- YHRB is regularly invited to participate in the Built Heritage Leadership Forum, where leaders of built-heritage organizations across Canada meet via teleconferences and an annual conference. The YHRB executive director attended the forum convened by the Heritage Canada Foundation in October 2007 on behalf of the board and gave a presentation on the designation process in the Yukon.
- The board chair participates on the Yukon Museum Advisory Committee in an ex-officio capacity.

Board member training

- Training for board members, as identified in the UFA Implementation Plan, was a focus of the past year.
- In July, the Government of Yukon provided presentations to the new board on Yukon land claims, the *Historic Resources Act* and historic site designation in the Yukon.
- The board hired a heritage consultant with extensive experience in board development to provide a one-day board development workshop in November.
- Board members attended a range of training sessions and presentations to improve their ability to carry out responsibilities within the mandate of the YHRB.
- The board hired a legal consultant to provide a half-day workshop on Chapter 13.
- Board members attended a four-day workshop on Yukon First Nations history, culture, agreements and self-government. This contributed to ongoing cross-cultural awareness and sensitivity, which enhances the board's effectiveness.

Abandoned U.S. Army vehicles on the Canol Road.
Yukon government photo

Strategic Plan

The board hired a heritage consultant who specializes in strategic planning for non-profit boards and has extensive northern experience to give the action plan of the YHRB's strategic plan focus and timelines. The board met twice with the consultant to be briefed on the required revisions and review the revised action plan.

Guests and presentations

YHRB hosted a number of guests at board meetings throughout the year. At the board's first meeting in July, Max Fraser of the Yukon Land Claims and Implementation Secretariat, Jeff Hunston of the Yukon Heritage Resources Unit and Barb Hogan of the Yukon Historic Sites Unit, Cultural Services Branch, gave introductory presentations. Rick Lemaire, the board's Yukon government representative, the Honourable Elaine Taylor, Minister of Tourism and Culture, and executive assistant Dan MacDonald attended a lunch and a welcome to the new board members.

In October, Janick Aquilina of Canadian Heritage, joined by colleagues Andrea Sebastian and Michele Genest, gave a presentation on the *Cultural Property Export and Import Act* to YHRB and invited guests Catherine Cole of Catherine C. Cole & Associates, Ian Burnett of the Cultural Services Branch, and Rebecca Jansen of the Yukon Historical & Museums Association.

Onek stone house
Yukon government photo

YHRB recommendations for 2007–08

Each year, the Yukon Heritage Resources Board, in cooperation with the Government of Yukon, reviews and determines the eligibility of applications to the Yukon Historic Resources Fund. The board then evaluates and recommends to the Minister of Tourism and Culture the applications to be funded.

The board recommended that the following seven applications to the Yukon Historic Resources Fund be approved for 2007–08:

- upgrade of yard artifacts at the MacBride Museum;
- excavations of the Little John Site and related ethnographic documentation of the Upper Tanana River Basin;
- rehabilitation of the Caribou Hotel in Carcross;
- support of the book *My Country is Alive: A Southern Tutchone Life*;
- the Yukon River Survey;
- the Tlingit and Tagish aboriginal languages preservation project; and
- Making a Modern Wilderness, a study of the change in the relationship between aboriginal peoples and conservation officials in the Yukon during the second half of the twentieth century.

Result: Accepted

Directions for the future

YHRB will continue to make recommendations on the designation of Yukon Historic Sites and applications to the Yukon Historic Resources Fund, sit on the Museums Advisory Committee as requested and continue to review the objectives, policies and programs of the Cultural Services Branch. As specified in Yukon First Nation Final Agreements, YHRB will review and make recommendations on management plans for historic sites, special management areas and Yukon parks.

YHRB will finalize the application and response forms to accompany the draft rules of procedure for determining ownership of heritage resources as identified in Chapter 13 of Yukon First Nation Final Agreements. In early summer, 2008, YHRB will forward the finalized draft rules and forms to the parties for review and comment. A PowerPoint presentation explaining the draft rules will be revised and made available to the parties. A guidebook to accompany the rules will be developed once the consultation process is complete. The board will continue to follow the development of a definitions manual by the Yukon and Yukon First Nations governments to facilitate the management and interpretation of heritage resources.

l-r: Board member Anne Leckie, Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor, Mayo Councillor Trevor Ellis and Chief Simon Mervyn of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun at a ceremony which designated the Mayo Legion Hall as a Yukon Historic Site in August, 2007.
Yukon government photo

The YHRB will continue to review the action plan at each board meeting and update it as required. The board will continue to co-sponsor and participate in the Fête Historica Fair program and continue to invite guests to board meetings in order to communicate YHRB's activities and learn about the activities of governments and heritage organizations. The board will raise YHRB's profile and partner with governments, heritage organizations and the public on heritage issues important to the Yukon people through attendance at heritage meetings, events and functions and by holding a board meeting in a Yukon community each year.

Auditor's report

To the members of the Yukon Heritage Resource Board:

I have audited the statement of financial position of Yukon Heritage Resource Board as at March 31, 2008 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the board's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at March 31, 2008 and the results of its operation and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.

Certified General Accountant

Whitehorse, Yukon

July 18, 2008

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2008

Assets

	2008	2007
Current		
Cash	$ 39,638	$ 79,146
Accounts receivable	4,195	1,921
Prepaid expenses	2,209	2,398
	46,042	83,465
Capital assets (Note 4)	22,853	25,542
	$ 68,895	$ 109,007
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 13,684	$ 20,802
Payroll liabilities	2,736	2,804
	16,420	23,606
Net assets		
Net assets invested in capital assets	22,853	25,542
Unrestricted net assets	29,622	59,859
	52,475	85,401
	$ 68,895	$ 109,007

Approved by the Directors:

Claire Isoll

Thomas A Peter

Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
Revenue		
Government of Yukon	**$ 186,214**	$ 182,972
Investment income	**5,871**	5,583
	192,085	188,555
Expenses		
Advertising and promotion	**4,735**	2,162
Accommodation	**3,142**	5,805
Honoraria	**33,450**	33,300
Insurance	**3,245**	3,038
Janitorial	**1,852**	1,856
Miscellaneous	**1,065**	969
Memberships	**103**	153
Office supplies	**2,752**	1,550
Office equipment	**1,592**	3,529
Meeting room	**190**	258
Meals and incidentals	**7,572**	8,098
Photocopying and postage	**1,411**	891
Repairs and maintenance	**2,234**	2,447
Support services	**46,404**	22,081
Telephone	**3,040**	2,953
Training	**12,012**	6,683
Travel	**10,531**	14,431
Utilities	**6,754**	7,859
Wages and benefits	**80,238**	75,088
	222,322	193,151
	(30,237)	(4,596)
Transfer from deferred revenue	**—**	5,030
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	**$ (30,237)**	$ 434

Statement of changes in net assets

For the year ended March 31, 2008

	Invested in capital assets	Unrestricted	Total 2008	Total 2007
Balance, beginning of year	$ 25,542	$ 59,859	$ 85,401	$ 84,967
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	—	(30,237)	(30,237)	434
Investment in capital assets	(2,689)	—	(2,689)	—
	22,853	29,622	52,475	85,401
Balance, end of year	$ 22,853	$ 29,622	$ 52,475	$ 85,401

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
Operating activities		
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	**$ (30,237)**	$ (4,598)
Add (deduct): Charges to income not involving cash		
Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations	**(9,271)**	15,183
Cash flow from operating activities	**(39,508)**	10,585
Financing activities	**1,593**	3,529
Cash flow from financing activities	**1,593**	3,529
Investing activities		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment:		
Furniture and equipment	**(1,593)**	(3,529)
Cash flow from investing activities	**(1,593)**	(3,529)
(Decrease) increase in cash	**(39,508)**	10,585
Cash, beginning of year	**79,146**	68,561
Cash, end of year	**$ 39,638**	$ 79,146

Notes to financial statements

March 31, 2008

1. Purpose of the organization

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board was established in March 1995 as one of the bodies required under the terms of the Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA) and the enabling settlement legislation, to make recommendation to the federal and territorial ministers responsible for heritage and to each Yukon First Nation regarding the management of Yukon Heritage Resources and First Nation Heritage Resources.

Since its inception, the Board has assisted First Nation, territorial, federal and municipal governments in developing heritage resource policies to reflect the wishes of all Yukoners.

2. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting practices generally accepted in Canada. In preparing these financial statements management has made estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Revenue recognition

The board follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Capital assets

The full cost of capital assets is capitalized on the balance sheet in the year of purchase. Payments toward those costs are expensed in the year they are made. The Investment in Capital Assets represents the historical cost of all assets owned by the Society less loans providing funds to acquire equity in the assets. The Board does not amortize its capital assets.

3. Financial instruments

The board's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, short-term investments and accounts payable. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the board is not exposed to significant currency, credit or interest risks arising from these financial instruments.

4. Capital assets

	2008		2007	
	cost	accumulated amortization	cost	accumulated amortization
Furniture and equipment	$22,853	$ —	$25,542	$ —
	$22,853	$ —	$25,542	$ —
Net book value		$22,853		$25,542

5. Economic dependence

The Board is dependent upon the Government of Yukon for continued financial support.

Header photos (except where noted, Yukon government photo):

Page 1. Yukon River channel markers

Page 2. Bonnet Plume River, 2007

Page 3. Crowberry plant (Parks Canada photo)

Page 4. Herschel Island schooner, 2007

Page 5. Montana Mountain, 2007

Page 6. Keno area crusher

Page 7. Artifact, Livingstone Creek, 2006

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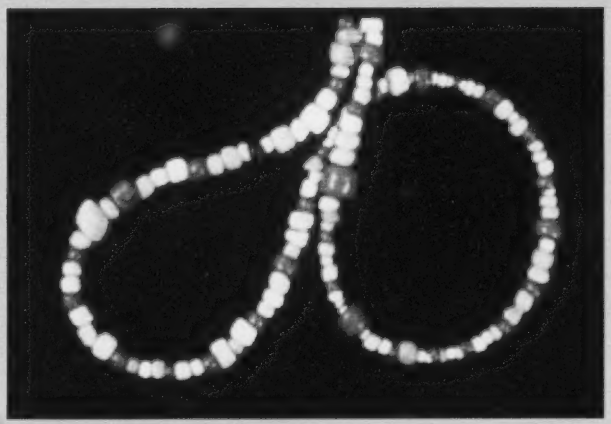

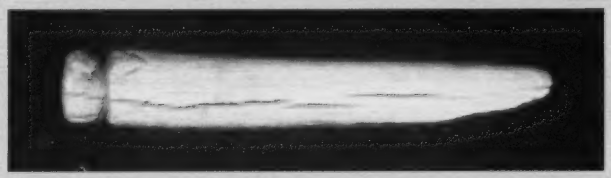

Front: View of Carcross, with Bennett Lake in the background and Nares Lake in the foreground (Jim Bishop photo)
Back (top: l-r): Baby carrier (Elmer Harp photo); beads; toboggan from Tatlmain Lake; bottom, left: Van Bibber cache in the Dalhaw Ghro area; centre, right: toboggan from Tatlmain Lake; bottom, right: gambling stick from Fort Selkirk (All Yukon government photos except where noted)